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20 March 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Conversation with Mr. John Hollister of the
"Commission on Organization of the Executive
Branch of the Government" (formerly the
"Hoover Commission").

1. As discussed with you and Mr. Kirkpatrick early in the week, I had an opportunity last night at my house to talk with Mr. Hollister about the present plans of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government in so far as they might relate to this Agency. The following is the gist of the conversation, and as you will note, there is one question raised at the end which I think you will want to consider carefully.

2. I did not want to overdo the discussion on CIA lest Mr. Hollister gain the impression that it was my intention to make him sing for his supper. Accordingly I did not press any point very far with him, but even so I think I got a pretty good picture of what the Commission presently has in mind.

3. I opened the subject by referring to the fact that on the last go-round the Commission had taken a pretty close look at CIA and had produced a number of conclusions and recommendations. I said that we were interested to know whether the Commission proposed any follow-up at this time or in the near future. Mr. Hollister said that the Commission is addressing itself to an altogether different series of subjects and is not proposing to go into the internal organization or substantive aspects of the work of individual departments and agencies. This was to work as a general proposition, with a possible exception that the Commission may interest itself in the matter of our foreign aid programs including the roles and respective responsibilities of the various departments and agencies concerned in this field, viz., State, FOA, Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, etc. According to Mr. Hollister, the Commission has no present intention to take a look at CIA as such.

4. My next question had to do with whether there was any plan in contemplation for an examination of relationships between the Congress and this Agency. Mr. Hollister said that he thought

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not. I then referred briefly to the fact that Senator Mansfield has introduced the CIA bill proposing the creation of a new joint committee to supervise CIA and I said that we had some misgivings about the bill in its present form. Mr. Hollister repeated that so far as he was aware there was no present intention of going into such a matter as this -- but he concluded with a statement that if we thought the Commission could be helpful he would be very glad to examine the matter with us with a view to seeing what action the Commission might take. He asked me if we had any "memorandum on the subject" which would summarize the situation and the problem if any. I replied that it would be no problem for us to produce a memorandum if this were thought desirable, but that I would wish to speak with you about the matter and would let him know within the relatively near future whether we wish to ask the Commission to interest itself in this matter or not.

(Signed) FRANK G. WISNER

FRANK G. WISNER
Deputy Director (Plans)

cc: IG ✓
DD/I
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